(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) steps proposed to be taken to address problems highlighted therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise. However, Railway is well-equipped to fight attacks.

Delay in upgrading equipment and infrastructure

3835. DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any complaint has been received from any railwaymen union that the present frequency of railway accidents is due to delay in upgrading the aging equipment and infrastructure ; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) No specifie complaint of the kind referred to in the question could be identified. However, regular interaction in various forums and formats are held with Federations/Unions on safety matters including railway equipments, infrastructure, accidents and ways and means to improve the performance of Railways on the safety front.

(b) Ensuring of safety in train operations by way of upgradation of existing equipments and infrastructure receives priority attention of the Railways and is a continuous process. To take care of overaged assets awaiting renewals, a non-lapsable Special Railway Safety Fund of Rs. 17,000 crores has been created to expedite the works of renewal/replacement of identified safety related assets and other safety enhancement measures within a time frame of six years.

Rail tickets through internet

3836. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railways have started the train ticket reservation on internet;

(b) if so, the details of cities in which this system is in operation, State-wise;

(c) whether the Ministry has made any arrangements for delivery of tickets reserved through internet; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?